

THE

# REHEARSAL Of Observator, &c.

*The Method of the Dissenters towards Peace and Union.*

From Saturday November the 4th, to Saturday November the 11th, 1704.

**O**bs. *D*O's the Government think to stop my Mouth with all their Gravity! I can Triumph on a Pillory, and Write an HYMN to it afterwards, as De Foe did. Thus Ridiculing the Sacred HYMNS of the Church, in Giving the same Name to our Prophane and Nasty SING-SONGS.

*Country-m.* But what if they shou'd Whip thee at a Cart-Tail; where the Mobb cou'd not Defend thee. Besides a Handsome Fine upon thy Back?

*Obs.* That wou'd be only Fining the Party, who are Oblig'd to save me Harmless. But none of them will be Whipp'd for Me: And I come of a Family that have a natural Aversion to Pain! But I'll Petition the Queen to be Hang'd, as I did her Father. And then she'll Forgive my Whipping, as he did. And I'll be as Grateful to her for it, as I have been to him!

However thou seest my Observators still go on! As last *Wensday*, with the same Booksellers Name. And Vol. 3. N. 67. to continue it from my Last, on last Saturday, the Day of my Tryal. That the Sets may be Compleat. Wasn't that a Cunning Trick! I tell thee thou hast got a New Observator. And who is that? Why it is I my self, that offer my self to thee Again. If it were another Observator, he wou'd Begin a new Number, and not take my Volume and Number, and go on with it. And say it was from last Saturday. Nor wou'd he have had the Impudence to Vindicate the Observator against the Sentence of the Court, as I do, and say of him, He was always a well wisher to his Country, and a Zealous Defender of Liberty and Property. Whereas he was found Guilty for his Wicked Attempts against all these. And shews his Loving Inclinations in that same *WENS-DAY's* Observator, where he says, And wou'd not you have such Men as Betray their Country Abroad, or that sell it at Home, be Hang'd, Drawn and Quarter'd, or if the Law will not Reclaim them, have them DE-WITTED?

Thus you see I am the same Man still. And therefore will go Backwards with thee, and keep on the same Chat we us'd to have, upon my Former Observators. While they Came out Three times a Week, I pretended it was in Order to my Tryal. But as I told thee before, it was for the Beginning of the Parliament. And to Answer the Ends of the Publick, for which I am Entertain'd. Therefore I spent One of them, that of *Oct. 28. Vol. 3. N. 64.* Upon My Queen's SPEECH. And therein Echo over again her Majesty's Exhortation to Peace and Union at Home, while we are Engag'd in WAR Abroad. And the Use I make of it, is, To turn all the Wranglings and Janglings among Us upon the Church-Party. And there I take Opportunity to have another Stroke at my old Friend Sir George Rook, by way of Excuse. I say thus, To have the Nation Hurry'd into Contention about the Conduct of

one Man, that is grown great in Office, when perhaps one Hundred part of the Nation knows Nothing of the Business; It may be Just as much as the Towns-Men of CALNES know of the Advantage of Taking GIBRALTAR: I say, when a Nation is Engag'd in such little trifling Contentions, it may give Room for our Enemies to believe that they may Engage Us yet in greater Divisions; When indeed, as her Majesty most Excellently says, THERE OUGHT TO BE NO CONTENTION AMONG US, BUT WHO SHALL MOST PROMOTE THE PUBLICK WELFARE.

Here, *Country-Man*, I make Sir George Rook the great Bone of Contention thro' the Nation. Which will make him very Obnoxious to the Common People; That the Nation shou'd be kept in Division, upon his Account! And you know the Natural Consequence of that is, That he be Remov'd out of the way; when WE Clamour against him!

*Country-m.* But you make him Unknown to the Hundred Man in the Nation. How then can he be a National Quarrel?

*Obs.* Thou'rt always putting me out! I said that only to Lessen him, to shew how Inconsiderable he is; That he's no more Known in the Nation, than the Advantage of Taking Gibraltar (there I have him again!) is known to the Towns-Men of Calnes.

*Country-m.* But, Hark ye, Bays, Who is it has made all this Stir about Sir George Rook? For tho' he is known to as many as know there is an English Fleet, And spoke of with that Esteem and Honour he justly has Merited: Yet his Name made no Stir in the Nation, nor was Blown about in Print, but by Thee and thy Scandalous Clubb, who have been Laying at him these Two Years past or more, Exposing and Ridiculing him in the Groffest manner. And even for his Taking of Gibraltar, and his Victory over the Grand Fleet of France; For which I have given thee Due Correction before. And the very Week after the News of his taking Gibraltar, &c. came over, out came little Colepeper Barking at his Heels; And his Comical Romance was Dispers'd over City and Country, and Advertis'd for a Month or more together, in all your Scoundrel Papers. These things Oblig'd some of Sir George's Friends to Publish a Narrative of his Expedition, and to do Him and the Nation Right. For so Exceeding was the Malice of the Whiggs against Sir George, (because a Church-Man) That rather than he shou'd have the Credit of doing any thing that was Brave, or Usefull to England, they took all the Pains they Cou'd, and thou amongst them the Foremost Man, to Turn this Victory to the French side; And to Represent the Taking of Gibraltar, as of no Use or Consequence at all; Tho' thou before Mad'lt it the Key of the Levant; And Reproach'dst this same Sir George, for not having Taken

ten it Before. As I have shew'd in My Rehearsal, N. 10. How then canst thou lay to the Church Party all this Stir has been about Sir George Rook?

Obj. Most Cleverly! For if no Body had Answer'd for him, but let US Rail on, there had been no *Dispute*! Thou know'st, it is the *Second Blow* that makes the *Quarrel*. Thou Rehearser hast Begun the *Contention*, What had'st thou to do to Concern thy self for our *Colepepering* and *Beslaving* Sir George Rook? Art thou one of the *Twenty Cut-throat Commissioners* of the *Blood-Office*? Or one of the *Some-Bodies* of *Officers*, that said they would *Stab* Me for *Abusing* of Sir George Rook? Upon which I Cry'd out of *Assassination*, to *Allarm* all the Party! And I'll tell thee, our Folks never Talk of *Assassination*, but they *Mean* it!

Country-m. This Matter Thou and Me Talk'd over in Rehearsal N. 12. But I'll tell thee, I have not the Honour to be any *Relation*, or so much as an *Acquaintance* of Sir G. Rook's. But I speak merely as a *True-Hearted English-man*. And cannot Refrain from *Indignation*, to see an *Honorable* and *Gallant Gentleman*, so vilely *Traduc'd* by a *Company* of *Rake-Hells*, notwithstanding of all the *Signal Services* he has done his *Country*; for no other Reason but that he is *True* to the *Church*. This shews the *Implacable SPIRIT* of *Whiggism*, which Regards not *Country*, but only *Party*. And would Rather their *Country* shou'd *sink*, than be *Sav'd* by the *Church*!

Besides their *Intolerable Impudence*, to Charge their own *Crimes* upon *Others*, who detest them. As thy Now laying upon the *Church* the *Clamours* Thou thy self hast Rais'd about Sir George Rook! And so as the *Cause* of that Breach of *Union* there is in the *Nation*! The *Church* is the *Cause* of *All*!

Obj. Then let them be *Quiet*! And not be *Answering* to what WE Write against them. Tho' we *Challenge* them to *Answer*; And *Upbraid* them for not *Answering*; And Cry *Victoria*! Upon that very Account. For why shou'd we lose *Advantages*? That is not our *Manner*!

Thus Mr. De Foe Begins his *NEW TEST OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND'S HONESTY*, in these words, *It is not many Months since the World was Emertain'd with a yet Un-Answer'd Pamphlet, Entitul'd, A NEW TEST OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND'S LOYALTY, &c.* And here he makes the *Church of England* as *Black as Hell*! A *Pack* of the *Greatest Rogues* and *Villains* that ever the *Earth* bore! But *Concludes*, p. 24. with an *Exhortation* to *Peace* and *Union*, *Recommended* by the *Queen*! And Adds an *Advertisement*, That Whereas he heard of a *Book* preparing of the *Sufferings* of the *Loyal Clergy* of the *Church of England*; by which it *Appears*, (says he) That notwithstanding her *Majesty's Commands* of *Peace* and *Union*, the *Church-Men* are *Resolv'd* to *Revive* all the old *Quarrels*, &c. And then *Threatens* them with *Exposing* their *Clergy* for *Sodomy*, *Incest*, *Adultery*, *Drunkenness*, *Blasphemy*, and other *Scandalous Crimes*.

Country-m. That *Book* a *Preparing*, is in *Answer* to *CALAMY's Abridgment of Baxter's Life*, lately *Printed*, and now again *Re-Printing*, wherein he gives a long *Detail* of the *Sufferings* of the *Non-Cons*, with most *Scandalous* and *False Reflections* on the *Church of England*.

Obj. Well! That's what I say. They will be *Answering*! Is that *Observing* the *Peace* and *Union* Enjoy'd by her *Majesty*?

Country-m. But you say, They have not *Answer'd* your *Church of England Loyalty*, nor your *Church of England Honesty*, nor *The Christianity* of

the *High Church Consider'd, Dedicated To my Lord H—m.* All *Printed* this same Year. And all *Exhorting* to *Peace* and *Union*; after having *Left* neither *Loyalty*, *Honesty*, nor *Christianity* to the *Church of England*. Is not this *Passive Obedience* to YOU, to a *Great Degree*? And *Complying* with your *Exhortations* to *Peace* and *Union*, tho' They are the *Sufferers*!

Obj. O! The *Rogues* Cannot *Answer*. And We *Hew* them *Down* upon that *Account*! How do We *Triumph* over them in *The Dissenters Answer to the High-Church Challenge* (*Printed* likewise this same Year 1704.) p. 15, &c. for their not having *Answer'd* *De Laun's Book*? Which makes the *Church of England* not only *Popish* and *Anti-Christian*, but *Heathenish*. Yet no *Answer*! And to *Provoke* them, We have about two *Months* since *Re-Printed* that *Precious Piece*. And in my *Observator* before *Nam'd*, wherein I too *Exhort* to *Peace* and *Union*, I have *Advertis'd* it with the *Huge Long Title-Page* at full *Length*. Wherein We *Boast*, That it was *Burnt* by the *Common Hangman* 20 years ago. As the *Church-Men* say it well *Deserv'd*; For its *Nonsense* and *Silliness*, as well as *Malice* and *Impudence*. And that there is nothing in it, but what has been *Answer'd* over and over Again. That there is nothing *New* in it, but the old *Job-Trot* of *Railing* and *Billings Gate* against both *Church* and *State*, as they say it is in *All We Write*. But let them say what they will, WE still *Insist*, it is not *Answer'd*! Come *Answer*! *Answer*! Why don't you *Answer*? This is my way to *Peace* and *Union*, to *Advertise* this *Book* over again, which makes very *Devils* of the *Church of England*; And shews them upon what *Terms* WE will make *Peace* with them!

Country-m. Then if they *Answer*, they are the *Aggressors*. And if they don't *Answer*, their *Cause* is gone, and you *Triumph*!

Obj. Right! my Boy! Thus We have them *Both ways*! Isn't this *Brave*?

That *Dog* of a *Bitch CASSANDRA* (whom I have *Maul'd*) was an *Aggressor*, tho' it was *Wrote* in *Answer* to the *Occasional Letter*, Num. First, without a *Second*.

The *Wolf Scrip* was an *Aggressor*, tho' *Wrote* in *Answer* to *Moderation a Vertue*, which, p. 21. Calls the *Church of England*, *Men of Debauch'd Consciences*, of the *Grossest Immoralities*, of *Damnable Lusts*, *Enemies* of the *State*, and of *Strange Disposition* to *Receive* the *Romish Religion*, &c.

The *New Association* was an *Aggressor*, tho' *Wrote* in *Answer* to *The Danger of Priest-Craft*, &c. which makes the *Church of England* all *Anti-Christ*, and the least of any men to be *Endur'd*, in any well order'd *State*.

'Tis these *Aggressors* *Disturb* the *Peace* and *Union* her *Majesty* *Recommends*! They will be *Ripping up* *Old sores*.

Country-m. Yet your little *Pert Calamy*, in a *Postscript* to the *Preface* of his *Abridgment*, sets down a *List* of *Authors* where your true *Principles* are to be found; the first of which was in the *Reign* of *Old Q. Bess*, Intitul'd *Part of a Register*, &c. Which, with much a do, I got a sight of. And found it full of *Treason* against the *Queen*, and most *Diabolical* but *Senseless* *MALICE* against the *Church*, her *Rites*, *Ceremonies*, *Liturgy*, and *Episcopacy*. Of the like *Strain* with those that follow, *Bitter* and *Violent INVECTIVES*, which *Declare* open *War*, and shew all *Reconciliation* or *Compounding* to be *Impossible*. How will you *Reconcile* your present *Occasional Conformity* with what these *Books* call *Idolatry*, *Anti-Christian*, and even *Heathenish*? Or would Mr. *Calamy* *Recommend* these *Books*, without *Reading* them? You must either *Quit* *Calamy*, or your *Cause*, and all your *Mealy-Mouth'd PRETENCES* to *Peace* and *Union*! You must even *Quit* your *Famous Monsieur De LAUN*, whom you have *Reprinted*, and send his *Book* too back to the *Hang-man*.

If you dare stand by *CALAMY's List* of your *Books*, I will, upon *Notice*, give you such an *Abstract* out of *Them*, as will make every *Honest Mans Hair* stand on *End*, and have you *Hunted* out of the *Kingdom*!

But if you will not stand by *Calamy*, then send his *Book* whither *De Laun's* went, with *De Foe's*, and the *Rest* of the like *Tendency*; And then see whom you will have left *Behind*, of all your late *Celebrated Writers*!

It would be the *Joyfullest Bonfire* that ever *England* saw! Then *Peace* and *Union*.! And I'm *Afraid*, not till *THEN*!